

P 301216Z JUN 08
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6507
INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

UNCLAS KINGSTON 000587

STATE FOR INL/LP NBozzolo, KBrown, WHA/CAR Tilghman

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SNAR AFIN ASEC JM

SUBJECT: April 2008 Narcotics Report-Jamaica

¶1. Summary

Cocaine statistics for the period January to April indicate peaks and troughs in seizures, with upward spikes in February and April. Between February and April, one thousand six hundred and ninety seven persons were arrested and fifteen motor vehicles were seized over the same period. In April, one aircraft and a go-fast vessel were seized. The above arrests and seizures are all related to drug crimes.

¶2. Operation Buccaneer

The Jamaica Defence and Constabulary Forces focused their efforts in six parishes where they destroyed 86 hectares of marijuana, 3 kilograms of seeds, 2000 units of seedlings and .028 kilograms of hashish.

Drug Eradication & Seizure
April 2008 Y-T-D 08

Cocaine, Kilograms	15.448	37.510
Crack Cocaine, Kilograms	0.337	.389
Marijuana Growing, Hectares	86.108	163.210
Marijuana Cured, Kilograms	626.362	7,724.310
Seeds, Kilograms	3.160	5.43
Seedlings, Units	2000	103,000
Hashish, Kilograms	.028	11.849
Nurseries, Units	0	5.0

¶3. Joint Law Enforcement Operations

Three joint law enforcement operations resulted in the seizure of approximately 480 kilograms of compressed marijuana, arrests of eleven persons and the seizure of one motor vehicle and one aircraft. The first operation took place at Lollipop Beach in Bull Bay, St. Andrew where there was an exchange of gunfire between the security forces and the alleged drug traffickers. It is believed that the dealers operating in this area are part of "guns for ganja trade" that continues between Jamaica and Haiti. The second operation took place in Saint Catherine without incident. An aircraft which landed at the decommissioned Vernam Field was seized by law enforcement officers and a 29 year old Bahamian, Jimmy Johnson was charged with illegal landing and entry. No drugs were found.

¶4. Maritime Operation

The Jamaica Defence Force Coast Guard seized a go-fast vessel in the Portland Bight area and 146 kilograms of compressed marijuana.

¶5. Jamaica Constabulary Force:

Jamaica Fugitive Apprehension Team (JFAT)

Donald Gordon and Donovan Skelton were arrested in Jamaica and Nassau Bahamas respectively. Gordon was wanted in the United States for bank robbery and Skelton for second degree murder. Gordon was extradited to the US while Skelton is awaiting extradition.

Jillian Hill who was arrested in March 2008 for murder was handed over to Cobb County Sheriff's by Senior Inspector Thaddeus Lee.

The table below provides a breakdown of JFAT activities:

April 2008

New Cases Opened	11
Closed Cases	12
Open/Pending Cases	186
Outstanding Provisional Warrants	18
Arrest on Provisional Warrants	1
Formal Extradition Completed	2
Suspects in Custody Pending Extradition	22
REGIONAL STATISTICS	
New International Cases	1
Cases Closed	6
Open/Pending Cases	12
Arrests on Provisional Warrants	1

Johnson